

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 3, 4, 5 and 6. These sheets replace the original sheets including Figures 3, 4, 5 and 6; only some element numbers have been changed to minimize possible confusion.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant amended claims 11 and 17 in accordance with Examiner's rejections.

Addressing Examiners remarks starting with ¶ 3, Djerf, in U.S. 5,649,785, is converting solid waste into a commercial product in "three basic interrelated phases" (§3, L36). Phase 1 conditions the waste wherein it is "... first passed through a magnetic separation unit.." (§4, L35); ".. into a shredder unit.. and ground to a preselected .. uniform.. dimension. ... to a sterilization and dryer unit.." (§4, L44). In Phase II, "..conveyed to a binding and compaction unit." (§4, L49). As expressed by applicant in a telephone call with the Examiner on March 2, we do not believe that Djerf discloses anything of useful value. Djerf has a collection of unit operations transforming waste into particle board; the fact that among Djerf's many disclosed unit operations are ones that perform the same operations as the applicant is circumstantial as opposed to illustrative. The fact that Djerf's company is out of business and U.S. 5,649,785 has expired on 8/24/2005 due to non-payment of fees supports the position that the Djerf equipment and process has no commercial value. Djerf has disclosed how not to treat waste economically. In contrast, Applicant's invention is currently being sold. Applicants invention processes compressed material of recyclable constituents, separating constituents of economic value such as glass, paper and metal. The separation is done first by "uncompressing" the material, sorting by size with a first and second screen and then by weight using an adjustable pneumatic separator and then by weight again using a cyclone, a drop box and a rotary airlock to adjust the air flow in the drop box.. This sequence of steps is not taught by Djerf or over prior art. The first size separation also serves to remove a majority of dust and grit contained in the compressed

material by the nature of its gathering and composition.

Examiner's states in ¶ 4 that Djerf "... discloses starting news screen fines.."; however Djerf never mentions "news screen fines" and specifically states that he starts with "... receives raw waste ... and treats the entire stream.." (§3, L42).

In Examiner's ¶ 5 & 6, applicant points out that Djerf after removing ferrous material, (§12, L51-54), the waste is ground to a uniform size of "1/8 to 1/4 inch" (§13, L6). Applicant asserts that treating a uniform material bears no relationship to treating compressed material such as news screen fines.

In response to Examiner's ¶ 7, applicant points out that Djerf's "magnetic separator assembly" is in fact a "continuous magnetized belt" (§12, L40) located at the beginning of the process rather than the end. Applicant asserts that treating an entire waste stream with a "moving magnetic belt" at the beginning of a separation process bears no relationship to treating a stream of segregated material with a crossbar magnet at the end of the process.

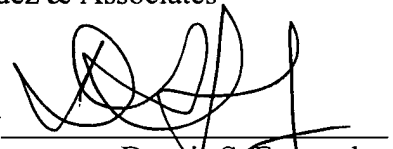
Based on the conversation of March 20 and March 30 with the Examiner, applicant has amended claims 11 and 17 to include a more complete description of the various components of the instant invention. Applicant amended drawing numbers in question to avoid possible confusion.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Fernandez & Associates

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis S. Fernandez', written over a horizontal line.

Dennis S. Fernandez

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